THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, the 22nd November 1948.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, the Deputy President (Sri K. VENKATASAMI NAIDU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

[a] [* 85 *Q*.—Starred question from the list of 20th November 1948 for supplementary questions.]

Sri K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIKAR :—" With reference to the answer to clauses (*b*), (*c*), and (*d*), are the Government satisfied that the minimum quantity of foodgrains has been provided for during the decontrol period for the non-producers? "

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The Government are satisfied that they have given all the quantity available with them for distribution. It may be that there are many people who have not got it. The Government could not do more. All the stocks available for the distribution were distributed through the Relief Shops. The stocks were distributed to all those who could be reached through relief shops."

Sri K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIKAR :—" Is it not a fact that thousands of people have migrated from Ramnad to Tanjore district? "

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" No definite statistics are available, Sir, but it is just possible that some people might have migrated in search of food from one district to another knowing that Ramnad was a dry district and that there was failure of monsoon."

Sri K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIKAR :—" Are the Government satisfied that the prices that prevailed during the decontrol period were within the means of the common man."

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Yes, Sir."

Sri K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIKAR :—" Can the common man of the rural area be rest assured of his ration at least hereafter? "

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Yes, Sir, that is the object of re-introducing the control."

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I take it that during the decontrol period the common man was not receiving foodgrains at the rates at which he was entitled to? "

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It is just possible; but Government are satisfied that they have given all that was at their disposal for these people."

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a The question was answered on 20th November 1948.